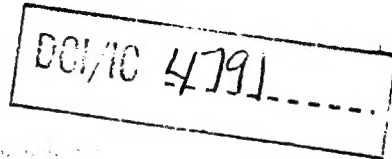# DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

DIA review(s) completed.

DCI/IC 4791

6 JUN 1977

U-3,824/RCI-3

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING DEPUTY TO THE DCI FOR THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: Inquiry by Senator Inouye

This responds to your letter of 27 May 1977, DCI/IC-77-8813, which asks for the Defense Department views on the below listed questions posed by Senator Inouye concerning the article published in the 2 May edition of Aviation Week & Space Technology titled "Soviets Push for Beam Weapon."

-Is it the DCI's understanding that the original 2 May story was reviewed for accuracy and security as claimed by Aviation Week?

ANSWER: The Department of Defense reviewed the story for purposes of security only. An advance copy of the article was provided the Defense Department for review for accuracy with an indication that at least some consideration would be given to changes recommended for security reasons. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs), (ASD(PA)), in coordination with Air Force OACSI personnel, recommended that major portions of the article be omitted for reasons of national security. Some deletions were made. Insofar as accuracy of the article is concerned, the ASD(PA) elected not to recommend technical changes as it did not appear to be in the national interest to correct the poor physics, erroneous conclusions, untrue statements, and tortured logic of the article.

-Is the article contained in the Aviation Week article improperly disclosed?

ANSWER: Yes. This article contains information considered highly classified by the Department of Defense. Some information has not been, and would not be, cleared for public release. Those portions considered to be classified have been identified in a report made to Mr. G. Marvin Gentile, Chairman of the DCI's Security Committee. Damage assessments have also been provided to Mr. Gentile.

Please advise if this Agency can provide any further assistance in this matter.

B. R. Inman
Vice Admiral, USN
Vice Director for Plans,
Operations and Support

cc:
ASD(PA)